



Fall Quarter 2008

2008 Urban Forestry Awards of Excellence

During *The Nature of Design: Educating for the Future* Conference the Urban Forestry Awards of Excellence awardees were recognized for their outstanding leadership and promotion of urban forestry in their communities. Jeff Gill, Awards Committee Chairman and vice president of operations for Middle Tennessee Electric Membership Cooperative, presented the awards at the Awards Banquet. See page 4 for this year's winners.



State Urban Forester Bruce Webster, TUFC President Patrick Walding and President Award's recipient Dr. Douglas Airhart



Tree Tag Specialty Auto Tag Coming Your Way!

TUFC is pursuing a specialty auto plate that promotes trees while supporting the cause of urban forestry. **1000 tags must be pre-sold for \$ 35.00 each** before the tree license tag is official! The marketing campaign will be kicked off soon with the design being unveiled. Your help is needed by buying a tree tag and helping spread the word about this opportunity. Go to www.tufc.com for more information and to print an application form.



Accepting awards and prize money at the Tree Climbing Championship were Aquilino Amador, Rob Bramblett and Josiah Lockard. Event Chair Scott Winningham, second from left, congratulates the participants. More details on page 12.

2008 Urban Forestry Grants Awarded

Five municipalities across the state are to share in a total of \$85,000 in urban forestry grants. Since 1991, the state Division of Forestry has distributed more than \$4 million in federal funding for urban forestry projects. Grant funding is provided by the USDA Forest Service.

\$5,000 grant to the city of Bristol to assist with urban forestry management planning and tree inventory activities.

\$15,050 grant to the city of Germantown to assist with urban forestry management plan development and tree inventory activities.

\$20,000 grant to the city of Chattanooga to assist with urban forestry management planning and tree inventory activities.

\$20,000 grant to the city of Franklin to assist with urban forestry management plan development and tree inventory activities.

\$25,000 grant to the Knox County MPC and city of Knoxville to assist with urban forestry resource conservation planning and management.

In addition to the above grants, TUFUC received a grant to support the Conference and Tree Climbing Championship.

Johnson City Takes First State Green Prize

The city of Johnson City was recognized with the first ever Tennessee Municipal League (TML) Green City Leadership Award. The TML is a cooperative organization that advocates on behalf of city governments. Johnson City was cited for its many green initiatives including green schools; Gas to Energy program; curbside and yard-waste recycling; biodiesel city fleets; innovative energy conservation practices; adding green spaces; community gardening and the city's new Green Team which is taking a grassroots approach to increasing environmental awareness.

One of the green initiatives included in their Green City Leadership Award is their designation as a "Tree City USA" for each of the past eight years. This achievement has been guided by the City's Tree and Landscape Board as well as City Forester Patrick Walding. Patrick also serves as the Tennessee Urban Forestry Council's president. In addition to a number of other Tree City-related initiatives, city crews plant approximately 135 new trees in the city each year.



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Wes Hopper - Arborist, Urban Forestry, Memphis
Susan Murray - West TN Chapter, TUFC
Trey Watson - Forester, Jackson Energy Authority

ONE YEAR APPOINTMENTS

Mary Thom Adams - Marketing Consultant, Knoxville
Dr. Bridget Jones
Ex. Director, Cumberland Region Tomorrow, Columbia
Todd Morgan - Director, Morristown Community Development Ctr.
Parvathi Nampoothiri - Planner, Hastings Architecture, Nashville

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Is There an Arboretum in Your Neighborhood?

Fifty Certified Statewide

Are you looking to take the family somewhere for a weekend getaway or are you planning a school trip for your kid's class? Why not consider one of Tennessee's fifty certified arboretums scattered across the State. The certified arboretum program was initiated by the Tennessee Urban Forestry Council (TUFC) in 1999 with support from the Tennessee Division of Forestry and the Tennessee Federation of Garden Clubs. Many of the sites are located on greenways, next to historic homes and neighborhoods, university campuses and schools, cemeteries, nature centers and museums. These sites offer individuals a chance to learn about the many different species of trees that help to give beauty and many environmental and savings benefits to our communities, quite often taken for granted, and a chance to learn the proper way to care for these trees.

If you do not have a certified arboretum in your community, are you interested in getting one? The TUFC website has our updated brochure and rules for creating an arboretum at www.tufc.com. Basically, there are currently four levels that an applicant can be certified for with each level having more species of trees required for viewing. Anything over a level I. needs a clear, detailed map showing all tree locations and referenced numbers indicating Genus and Species of each tree. Once an application is sent in to the council by June 1st of each year, the arboretum committee will review each application for completeness and proper spelling of each scientific and common name of the tree, and then schedule an inspection of the site with usually a team of three council members familiar in arboriculture. Successful applicants, once approved, are then certified for a period of five years.

One of the newer benefits, since 2007, that a certified arboretum brings to a community is recognition in the Governor's Three Star Program by giving economic development points towards infrastructure grants. The TUFC continues to bring awareness to this program by working with the Department of Tourism to market the arboretums in Tennessee as a tourism tool. The Council has received communications in the past from people that actually tour and visit every arboretum as a vacation destination. So when are you planning your next visit to your local arboretum?

2008 Urban Forestry Awards of Excellence

Builder/Developer: Dalhoff Thomas & Daws, Memphis - Development with designed lots and roadways to preserve existing trees and with maintaining existing drainage patterns to minimize grading and tree loss.

Citizen Activist - Tie: Barbara Garrett, Morristown Tree Board - member of the Morristown Tree Board active in designing parks and planting trees. **Sharon Burch, Central Gardens Neighborhood Association, Memphis** - leader and motivation for her Neighborhood Arboretum and walking trail.

Government Employees: Eric Bridges, Natural Resource Director, City of Lakeland - Has spent 17 years in forestry, federal, state, private and municipal levels including six years with Lakeland where he has successfully incorporated the components of urban forestry planning into community development.

Green Industry: Jimmy Ferrell, Ferrell's Tree Service, Memphis - As the TUFC treasurer. Jimmy coordinated and handled the arrangements for the first set of cash prizes for the 2007 Tree Climbing Championship and has set-up a network for future program support.

Private Professional: Scott Winningham, DBA Arbor Medics Tree Care Specialist, Cookeville - Scott is a ISA Certified Arborist and Tree Worker, Arbor Master Trainer who has assisted with the Tennessee/TUFC, ISA Southern and the ISA International Tree Climbing Championships. He served as the this year's TUFC Championship chairman. Additionally Scott has developed arborist equipment to help the industry.

Tree Board Award: Bristol Tree Board, Nancy Estes Tree Board Chair, Parks and Recreation Department - Bristol is a Tree City USA and celebrates its tree board's twentieth year. The tree board distributes tree information at the Farmer's Market, hosted the Notable Trees Exhibit and a subdivision tree walk and created a tree column in the local newspaper, Bristol's Herald Courier.

President's Award: Dr. Douglas Airhart - Dr. Douglas Airhart's eleven years of dedicated service to the TUFC was recognized through receiving the 2008 President's Award. He has been tenacious in his commitment to sound urban forestry practices throughout the state and beyond. Douglas is a Professor of Horticulture at Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville. He is a certified arborist and municipal specialist with the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) and registered as a proctor and tree worker evaluator. He has written numerous articles for publication, presented at regional, statewide and national conferences and workshops and is the creator and author of the touted www.tlcfortrees.edu web site. Since 1997 Douglas has served as the TUFC Secretary. His commitment to urban forestry also includes being a cadre for the Municipal Forestry Institute, a founding member of the Cookeville Tree Board, a consultant for three towns as well as developing Tennessee nursery grades and standards.



Awards Chair Jeff Gill and State Urban Forester Bruce Webster present Jimmy Ferrell of Ferrell Tree Service, Memphis, the Green Industry Award



Awards Chair Jeff Gill and State Urban Forester Bruce Webster present the Tree Board Award to the Bristol Tree Board. Accepting the award were Nancy Estes Chair, Department of Parks and recreation Naturalist Jeremy Stout and City Councilwoman Margaret Feierabend.

Top Trees for Absorbing Greenhouse Gasses

During its lifetime, one large tree can absorb as much as 11 tons of carbon dioxide (CO₂), a major contributor to global warming. Plant two trees, and you've got a couple of greenhouse-gas guzzlers that will together absorb nearly 21 tons — about as much CO₂ as the average American emits in one year, according to research conducted by David Nowak, a forestry researcher with the U.S. Forest Service's Northeast Research Station in Syracuse, New York.

While all trees large or small take in CO₂ during photosynthesis (the process of converting water, CO₂ and sunlight into sugar for food), the larger species of trees hold in more carbon because of their sheer size. The top carbon absorbing trees are oaks, maples, beech, American elm, cottonwood, pecan, London plane tree, basswood, redwood and yellow poplar (Tennessee's state tree). [reported in www.treelink.org].

Item of Interest

The Communities Committee is a nonprofit organization made up of a diverse group of people from across the United States who believe local participation in stewardship of natural resources is critical to both forest ecosystem health and community well-being. The Committee is comprised of urban foresters, environmental activists, private forest landowners, civil servants, forest stewardship practitioners, professional foresters, forest industry representatives, academics, and researchers.

The Communities Committee undertook a two-part study to explore perceptions of and participation in Community-based Forestry (CBF) in the United States to assess the current state of CBF as perceived by participants, particularly priority issues they face, their vision for CBF in the years ahead, and how support organizations can help meet their needs in order to advance the CBF movement. The full report is available in two parts in the publications section of the Communities Committee website, www.communitiescommittee.org.

The Tennessee Forestry Commission

The Tennessee Forestry Commission, established in 1985, serves in an advisory capacity on forestry policy to the Tennessee Department of Agriculture and the governor. Pictured at a recent meeting are Commissioners Dottie Mann and Chairman Bill Williams. Dottie serves in the position as the representative of conservation organizations. She is a TUFC past president, current Clarksville Tree Board Chairman and through her years of service is a great resource on urban forestry issues. Bill who is from Newport serves as the representative of hardwood manufactures.

The Forestry Commission is to formulate and recommend programs of fire protection, reforestation and seedling production, forestry assistance to private landowners, educational and informational functions which enhance understanding of the value and management of the forest resource, management of state forests, **urban tree management**, development of markets for Tennessee forest products, protection from insect and disease epidemics, and protection of the soil and water quality.



The Trade Show during the annual conference highlighted the green industry.

Knoxville Zoo Seeks Aid in Tree Removal

Knoxville Zoo asks professional tree companies to consider donating services to help remove hazard trees from their grounds. A certified arborist has identified 18 large trees that need to come down, but help with removing even one of the most hazardous would be appreciated. Hollowed out trees and those with those with large dead limbs pose potential safety issues. The deterioration of the trees is not a result of any one cause, but is a combination of factors including drought stress, tree age, and budgetary restrictions for annual tree maintenance. Some of them are over 60 feet in height, and their locations vary from inside animal exhibits, to the zoo's nature trail, to nearby staff buildings. Zoo grounds staff would be able to provide much of the labor for prep and clean up but the skills and equipment of a professional are needed to take them down safely. Knoxville Zoo is a 501 (c)(3) non profit that sits on 53 rolling acres in East Knoxville. If you are willing to help with this challenging project, please contact Keith Montgomery at 865-637-5331 ext. 326.

Urban Forestry Management Plan touted by Mayor's Office

Proposal for establishing a city forester position and developing a management plan for Nashville's urban forest was drafted by the Metro Tree Advisory Committee and submitted to Mayor Karl Dean's office. The feedback was great noting that this is the way all management plans should be written! It was presented as a business plan, noting the economic benefits of a sound urban forestry program. Check the plan out and note the graphic presentation format which made the document easy and enjoyable to read.



http://www.nashville.gov/beautification/pdf/urbanforest_proposalWithCoverLetter.pdf

Tree Information of Interest: Trees are Energy Efficient!

Computer simulations using standard building and tree configurations for cities across the U.S. indicate that shade from a single well-placed, mature tree (about 25-ft crown diameter) reduces annual air conditioning use 2 to 8 percent and peak cooling demand 2 to 10 percent (Simpson and McPherson, 1996). The ambient air temperature difference between an urban heat island and a vegetated area can be as much as 2-10 degrees F. The temperature measured directly above man-made surfaces can be as much as 25 degrees F hotter than the air temperature beneath a forested area (Akbari et. al., 1992; Simpson and McPherson, 1996). Trees in Davis, California parking lots reduced surface asphalt temperatures by as much as 36°F, vehicle cabin temperatures by over 47°F, and fuel-tank temperatures by nearly 7°F. (Scott et. al., 1999).

Standing as a silent sentinel to the town, this enormous white oak (Quercus alba) welcomes travelers into the city of McMinnville. While only 81 feet tall, the crown spreads 130 feet, with several of the lower limbs larger than many trees.

Known as the Birthing Tree, it is a feature of the Notable Trees of Tennessee Exhibit, on the Landmark and Historic Tree Register, and in the Notable Trees Note Card series.

http://tufo.com/trees_birthing.htm



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10th Tree Climbing Championship

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State Urban Forester Bruce Webster presents an appreciation plaque to TUFC President Patrick Walding. Patrick is the City Forester for Johnson City. During the annual meeting which is held during the conference, Patrick presented the President's Report highlighting the Council's 2008 accomplishments.

Calendar of Events

October 9

West Tennessee Chapter of the Tennessee Urban Forestry Council Meeting, Agri-Center International, Memphis. Jim Volgas, jivolgas@juno.com. Chapter Notice: President Alan Wyatt has moved to Seattle and Jim Volgas is now serving as the Chapter President.

October 24

Making the Connection: The Economics and Health Benefits of Greenway and Trails conference, Abington, VA; Southern Appalachian Greenway Alliance, Jonesboro; www.sagatrails.org, (276)623-6188.

November

TUFC Board and Town Hall Meeting, Columbia. For more information, contact Jennifer Smith, (615) 352-8985, tufc@comcast.net. Date TBA.



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November 17

Alliance for Community Trees Annual Member Rally & NeighborWoods Academy, Atlanta. Held in conjunction with the Partners in Community Forestry Conference, (888) 448-7337, conferences@arborday.org.

November 18-20

Partners in Community Forestry Conference, Atlanta, Arbor Day Foundation & Alliance for Community Trees. This conference is designed to bring the broad based community forestry groups together to look at ways to work in partnership to promote shared

goals, and build healthier, livable communities. (888) 448-7337, conferences@arborday.org.

February 22-27, 2009

Municipal Forester Institute (MFI), sponsored by the Society of Municipal Arborists (SMA).

MFI is a high-level training institute educating professionals in the leadership and managerial aspects of urban forestry programs. This week-long event delivers a challenging opportunity to shape a successful tree care program. MFI does not include any technical or arboricultural training but focuses on leadership and management tools of program administration, coalition building, strategic thinking, program planning and public relations. 2009 location: Ridgeland, SC.

For more information, call (706) 769-7412 or visit SMA's website at www.urban-forestry.com.

Registration is now open through November 1st, 2008. Ms. Jerri Lahaie.



April 6-8

16th Annual Trees and Utilities National Conference, presented by the Arbor Day Foundation, Dallas, TX; (888) 448-7337, www.arborday.org.



TUFC Mission Statement

The Tennessee Urban Forestry Council serves as an advisory body to promote healthy and sustainable urban and community forests in Tennessee by providing leadership and guidance through education, planning, advocacy, and collaboration.

2008 Landmark and Historic Tree Register

The L&HT committee recommended two new entries into the Tennessee Landmark & Historic Tree Register, now giving the register 18 trees of significance. The 2009 entries were presented at the recent *The Nature of Design: Educating for the Future* conference.

Historic Tree

The DeLapp Cemetery Civil War Beech (Jacksboro, TN). This beech stands in the Civil War Memorial Cemetery (once known as the DeLapp Family Cemetery) in Jacksboro. In 1862-63 the 58th North Carolina Confederate Regiment was encamped in this old family cemetery to guard Big Creek Gap of the Cumberland Mountains (now known as nearby LaFollette). In the winter of 1862 some 52 soldiers died of diseases and were buried in the cemetery. The large beech tree in the center of the cemetery is carved with the word “Boothill” and 52 slashes, one for each of the soldiers buried there. Rediscovered in 1982, the Campbell County Historical Society eventually bought the property and began cleaning up the graves (at that time only jagged field stones and sunken plots) and marking them with new tombstones. The City of Jacksboro now maintains it as the Civil War Memorial Cemetery, complete with flags and a monument. Nominated by the Campbell County Historical Society.



The DeLapp Cemetery Beech of Jacksboro.

Landmark Tree

The Cherokee Oak of Putnam County. This large and old white oak marks the Old Walton Road, an early settlement wagon road between Brotherton and Buck Mountain (the old Chattanooga-McMinnville stage road is the only other known 19th century pioneer road). Legend states that Francis Hammock, a full-blooded Cherokee, escaped from the 1832 Trail of Tears near this tree and hid in a nearby cave until the soldiers left. She later married a local man and many of the descendants of this union today live in the Upper Cumberlands. The white oak has been recognized by local residents and is part of the folklore of the region. The famous horseback-riding US mailman, Willis Hyder, carried the mail by this tree for over four decades and was featured in June 29, 1947 in *The Nashville Tennessean Magazine*. Nominated by Rebecca Gay Lane, daughter to the present landowners, and Patrick Haller of the TUFCA.



As chair of the Landmark and Historic Tree Register, Tom Simpson announced the 2008 Register inductees during the annual conference awards ceremony.

Energy Conservation Through Trees Act Introduced

Rep. Doris Matsui (CA-05) in April introduced the Energy Conservation Through Trees Act of 2008 aimed at lowering utility bills and improving air quality. The premise of the act is that by promoting the strategic planting of trees, the amount of energy needed to heat and cool homes will be reduced. “Today, we are tasked with reducing our dependence on foreign oil, stabilizing our energy grid, and improving air quality. By harnessing the enterprising spirit of Americans and utilizing a diverse range of innovative approaches, we can accomplish this goal,” says Rep. Matsui. Patterned after a successful model established by the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD), the Energy Conservation Through Trees Act seeks to save Americans money on utility bills and reduce outside temperatures in urban areas. The program conducted by SMUD has been proven to lower energy bills, make local power utilities more cost-effective, and reduce air pollution. Planting shade trees around homes in a strategic manner is a proven way to lower energy demand in residential areas, according to proponents of the bill. According to research conducted by the Department of Energy, three shade trees strategically planted around a house can reduce home air-conditioning bills by about 30 percent in some cities, and a nationwide shade program could reduce air-conditioning use by at least 10 percent. Shade trees also help to:

- ◆ Improve public health and air quality by absorbing particulate matter;
- ◆ Store carbon dioxide to help slow global warming;
- ◆ Reduce the risk of flooding in urban areas by absorbing stormwater runoff;
- ◆ Improve private property values and increase residential aesthetics;
- ◆ Preserve public infrastructure, such as streets and sidewalks.

The legislation would require the use of science-based tree-siting guidelines to ensure that trees are not planted in locations that will disrupt pre-existing infrastructure, block solar panels and wind turbines or damage power lines. Consultation during the development of these guidelines would have to be provided by Technical Advisory Committees (TACs) composed of local energy and arboriculture experts. It also requires utilities that receive assistance to partner with nonprofit treeplanting organizations or other municipal infrastructure groups to run the technical side of the program. These nonprofit groups are meant to serve as tree-planting experts to complement utilities’ financial interest in lowering peak energy demand and reducing consumption. They will provide technical and outreach assistance, work with tree recipients, and ensure that trees are planted in the right place to maximize energy conservation. “In Sacramento, we are committed to solving the global warming crisis and reducing our impact on our planet. By expanding one of our successful local initiatives to the national level, we can help ensure that we are handing over a cleaner world to future generations,” says Rep. Matsui. “My legislation is a piece of the puzzle that will become the solution to our environmental challenges and securing our energy independence. We must take action now to make sure that our planet continues to thrive and flourish for years to come. Reducing our environmental impact will have far-reaching effects into the quality of life for the American people, and people around the world.”



Urban Greening “Take Root” Web Site Now Live

Chattanoogans can now donate online to help plant 1,500 trees

With www.takerootchattanooga.com live on the World Wide Web, Chattanoogaans can donate some green to Take Root’s urban canopy project, with the goal of planting 1,500 new trees in the downtown area.

Visitors to the site can donate in amounts ranging from \$25 (Twig) to \$10,000 (Forest), encouraging private individuals, groups and businesses big and small to contribute at whatever level they can. All donations are tax deductible. The site, which links in to the City of Chattanooga’s home page, also includes more information about Take Root and its partners. Those wishing to donate to Take Root by check may do so by sending a check to the Community Foundation, marked “For Take Root,” 1270 Market Street, Chattanooga 37402.

Take Root launched on March 7 at Battle Academy, with the planting of the first tree: the “first leaf” of a project that has brought together many partners, including The City of Chattanooga’s Tree Commission, City Forester Gene Hyde, Select Trees of Athens, Georgia, Project Green Team of the 2007-08 Leadership Chattanooga class, UTC’s Graphic Design department, The Community Foundation, The Urban Century Institute, and Chattanooga State, in a shared vision of greening our city while reducing its carbon footprint.

“This is really a unique way to help with the greening of Chattanooga,” said City Forester Gene Hyde. “Our goal is to achieve a 15 percent canopy goal in the downtown area. Every new tree planted gets us a little closer to that goal.”

For more information on Take Root contact program coordinator Preston Roberts, preston707@gmail.com.



Columnar English Oak next to "The English Rose" restaurant in Chattanooga, Tennessee. “Take Root Chattanooga” wants to aid the greening of the city.

Trees are sanctuaries. Whoever knows how to listen to them can learn the truth.

-- Herman Hesse

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The SSRCx logo consists of a stylized tree silhouette to the left of the text 'SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS GROUP' in a bold, sans-serif font. Below the main logo, there is a smaller version of the 'SSRCx' text with 'FACILITIES COMMISSIONING' written underneath it.

Tree City USA

Making a Difference in Our Communities

The Tennessee Department of Agriculture, Division of Forestry and the National Arbor Day Foundation announce Tennessee's Tree City USA cities. To become a Tree City USA a city must meet four standards: (1) Have a Tree Board or Advisory Committee, (2) Have an ordinance in place to protect and manage trees, (3) Spend \$2 per resident of the community on a tree program, and (4) Celebrate Arbor Day with a ceremony and proclamation. In addition to Tree City USA designation listed below, Bristol, Clarksville, Collierville, Cookeville, Crossville, Germantown, Jackson, Lakeland, Morristown, Pigeon Forge and Rogersville have applied for **Tree City Growth Award** from the National Arbor Day Foundation for expanding and improving their programs. Current Tree City USA holders and their tenure:

Norris 29	Brentwood 19	Tullahoma 11	Lakeland 4
Athens 27	Clarksville 19	Bell Buckle 8	Collierville 3
Maryville 27	Cookeville 19	Crossville 8	Franklin 3
Sevierville 23	Chattanooga 18	Johnson City 8	Livingston 3
Jackson 22	Sewanee 18	Sweetwater 8	Rogersville 3
Kingsport 22	Knoxville 17	Harrogate 7	Bartlett 1
Alcoa 21	Cleveland 16	McMinnville 7	Martin 1
Bristol 20	Germantown 16	Pigeon Forge 7	
Gatlinburg 20	Pulaski 15	Morristown 6	
Oak Ridge 20	Nashville 13	Jonesboro 4	



Kudos for the 2008 Tree Climbing Championship Winners!

- 1st Place - Aquilino Amador, Davey Tree, Nashville
- 2nd Place - Rob Bramblett, Arbor Care Tree Specialist, Nashville
- 3rd Place - Josiah Lockard, Druid Tree Service, Nashville

The 10th Tennessee Tree Climbing Championship was at Knoxville's Lake Shore Park on Saturday, September 8. The competition gives arborists a chance to showcase skills while promoting safety and proper tree care techniques. The five preliminary events included rope throw, which tests a competitor on his ability to get his climbing rope in the tree; two types of climbing techniques, which put the competitor in the tree to begin the tree work; a work climb, which simulates what an arborist does while working in the tree; and aerial rescue, which is important to successfully get an injured arborist out of the tree. The Master's Challenge requires competitors to climb a tree with full gear and make their way over five different stations in the crown of the tree within twenty minutes.

The Tennessee Urban Forestry Council expresses thanks to participants, judges, technicians, and sponsors. A special thanks goes to the organizing committee, including Scott Winningham, Arbor Medics Tree Care Specialists of Cookeville, Chair; Jimmy Ferrell, Ferrell Tree Service of Memphis, Sponsorship; Sam Adams, Cortese Tree Service of Knoxville, Local Logistics; Wes Hopper, Urban Forestry of Memphis, Technical Advisor; and Carl Absher, ABC Tree Service of Chattanooga, Equipment.

Aquilino Amador now advances to the regional competition which will be held in Shreveport, LA in March, 2009.



Contestant Rob Bramblett works through the Master Challenge during the 10th Annual Tree Climbing Championship Held in Knoxville at Lake Shore Park.



Tennessee Urban Forestry Council

6820 Cloudland Dr., Nashville, TN 37205
(615) 352-8985 - www.tufc.com

Branching Out is a publication of the Tennessee Urban Forestry Council (TUFC).

Newsletter Committee:

Dr. Douglas Airhart, Dottie Mann and Jennifer Smith



The Tenn. Dept. of Agriculture, Div. of Forestry, and the TUFC work together to enhance urban forestry statewide.

Tree Line USA – Utility Awards: TN Recognized

The TN Dept of Agriculture, Division of Forestry has announced that eight municipal utilities and two electric cooperatives have been approved for Tree Line USA status. Program administrator, East TN Urban Forester Tom Simpson, noted that again our state has tied for the second highest number of Tree Lines in the country, behind California! Tree Line USA is a program sponsored by the National Arbor Day Foundation and the State Forestry agency recognizing utilities whose practices and activities help to improve the urban forest.

Each utility that receives recognition must meet these standards:

- o Adopt pruning standards that eliminate stubbing or topping, such as lateral pruning.
- o Adopt policies for tunneling rather than trenching near high value trees.
- o Implement an annual training program of tree care for utility crews.
- o Mail tree care information to all customers at least once each year.
- o Hire a utility forester or arborist or designate someone to serve that capacity.
- o Spend \$.10 per customer on tree planting projects within the community.
- o Participate in the community’s Arbor Day activities.

This year’s honorees:

- Dyersburg - Dyersburg Electric System: 9 years
- Bristol - Bristol Tennessee Essential Services: 8 years
- Cleveland - Cleveland Utilities: 8 years
- Knoxville - Knoxville Utilities Board: 7 years
- Clinton - Clinton Utilities Board: 6 years
- Johnson City - Johnson City Power Board: 5 years
- Morristown - Morristown Utilities: 5 years
- Cookeville - Cookeville Electric Department: 4 years
- Shelbyville - Duck River Electric Member Cooperative: 4 years
- New Market - Appalachian Electric Member Cooperative: 3 years

“The best friend on Earth of man is the tree. When we use the tree respectfully and economically, we have one of the greatest resources of the Earth.”

-- Frank Lloyd Wright



Zach French, Tree Solution Consulting Services



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Registered Consulting Arborist #450
Certified Treecare Safety Professional #30
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Tree Inventory
Pre-Construction Site Assessment
and Tree Preservation
Tree Valuation
Plant Health Care
Education and Training
Forensic Investigation
Expert Witness

Notable Trees of Tennessee Exhibit Touring Schedule

**Look for Schedule on www.tufc.com
If you want to host this exhibit, contact
Jennifer Smith - tufc@comcast.net**